

## SOM

SOMETHING. *n. f.* [rum'ding, Saxon.]  
1. Not nothing, though it appears not what; a thing or matter indeterminate.

When fierce Bavar  
Did from afar the British chief behold,  
Betwixt despair and rage, and hope and pain,  
Something within his warring bosom roll'd.  
The force of the air upon the pulmonary artery is but small, in respect of that of the heart; but it is still something.

You'll say the whole world has something to do, something to talk of, something to wish for, and something to be employed about; but pray put all these somethings together, and what is the sum total but just nothing.

Here the beholds the chaos dark and deep,  
Where nameless somethings in their causes sleep.

2. More or less.  
Something yet of doubt remains.  
Years following years steal something every day,  
At least they steal us from ourselves away.

3. Part.  
Something of it arises from our infant state.

4. Distance not great.  
I will acquaint you with the perfect spy o' th' time; for't must be done to-night, and something from the palace.

SOMETHING. *adv.* In some degree.  
The pain went away upon it; but he was something discouraged by a new pain falling some days after upon his elbow on the other side.

SOMETIME. *adv.* [some and time.] Once; formerly.  
What art thou that usurp'd this time of night,  
Together with that fair and warlike form,  
In which the majesty of buried Denmark  
Did sometime march?

SOMETIMES. *adv.* [some and times.]  
Good sometime queen, prepare thee hence for France. Sh.

1. Not never; now and then; at one time or other.  
I will render me more equal, sometime superior. Milton.

It is good that we sometimes be contradicted, and that we always bear it well; for perfect peace cannot be had in this world.

2. At one time, opposed to sometimes, or to another time.  
The body passive is better wrought upon at sometimes than at others.

SOMETIMES the one, and sometimes the other, may be glanced upon in these scripture descriptions.

He writes not always of a piece, but sometimes mixes trivial things with those of greater moment: sometimes also, though not often, he runs riot, and knows not when he has said enough.

SOMEWHAT. *n. f.* [some and what.]  
1. Something; not nothing, though it be uncertain what.

Upon the sea somewhat methought did rise  
Like bluefish mists.  
He that shuts his eyes against a small light, on purpose to avoid the sight of somewhat that displeases him, would, for the same reason, shut them against the sun.

2. More or less.  
Concerning every of these, somewhat Christ hath commanded, which must be kept till the world's end: on the contrary side, in every of them somewhat there may be added, as the church judges it expedient.

These fals have somewhat of a nitrous taste, but mixt with a smatch of vitriolick.

3. Part greater or less.  
Somewhat of his good sense will suffer in this transfusion, and much of the beauty of his thoughts will be lost.

SOMEWHAT. *adv.* In some degree.  
Holding of the breath doth help somewhat to cease the hicough.

He is somewhat arrogant at his first entrance, and is too inquisitive through the whole; yet these imperfections hinder not our compassion.

SOMEWHERE. *adv.* [some and where.] In one place or other; not nowhere.

Hopeless and forelorn  
They are return'd, and somewhere live obscurely. Denham.

Compelling two priams hard together, that their sides, which by chance were a very little convex, might somewhere touch one another, I found the place in which they touched to become absolutely transparent, as if they had there been one continued piece of glass.

Does something still, and somewhere yet remain,  
Reward or punishment?  
Of the dead we must speak gently; and therefore, as Mr. Dryden says somewhere, peace be to its manes.

SOMEWHERE. *n. f.* [some and where.] Once; for a time. Out of use.  
Though under colour of the shepherds somewhere,  
There crept in wolves full of fraud and guile,  
That often devoured their own sheep,  
And often the shepherd that did 'em keep.

## SON

SOMNIFEROUS. *adj.* [somniafero, Fr. somnifer, Latin.] Causing sleep; procuring sleep; soporiferous; dormitive.

I wish for some somniferous potion, that might force me to sleep away the intermitted time, as it does with men in sorrow.

SOMNIFICK. *adj.* [somnia and facio, Latin.] Causing sleep.

SOMNOLENCY. *n. f.* [somnia, Latin.] Sleepiness; inclination to sleep.

SON. *n. f.* [sunus, Gothick; suna, Saxon; son, German; son, Swedish; sone, Dutch; syn, Slavonian.]

1. A male born of one or begotten by one; correlative to father or mother.

She had a son for her cradle, ere she had a husband for her bed.  
Cast out this bondwoman and her son.

He compares the affection of the Divine Being to the indulgence of a wife father, who would have his sons exercised with labour and pain, that they may gather strength.

2. Descendant however distant: as, the sons of Adam.  
I am the son of the wife, the son of ancient kings.

3. Compellation of an old to a young man, or of a confessor to his penitent.

Be plain, good son, and homely in thy drift;  
Riddling confession finds but riddling thrift.

4. Native of a country.  
Britain then  
Sees arts her savage sons controul.

5. The second person of the Trinity.  
If thou be the son of God, come down.

6. Product of any thing.  
Our imperfections prompt our corruption, and loudly tell us we are sons of earth.

Earth's tall sons, the cedar, oak, and pine,  
Their parents undecaying strength declare.

7. In scripture, sons of pride, and sons of light, denoting some quality.  
This new favorite  
Of heav'n, this man of clay, son of despite.

SON-IN-LAW. *n. f.* One married to one's daughter.  
If virtue no benighted beauty lack,  
Your son-in-law is far more fair than black.

A foreign son-in-law shall come from far,  
Whole race shall bear aloft the Latian name.

SONSHIP. *n. f.* [from son.] Filiation; the character of a son.  
The apostle to the Hebrews makes afflictions not only incident but necessary to Christianity, the badge and cognizance of sonship.

SONATA. *n. f.* [Italian.] A tune.  
He whistled a Scotch tune, and an Italian sonata.

Could Pedro, think you, make no trial  
Of a sonata on his viol,  
Unless he had the total gut,  
Whence every string at first was cut.

SONG. *n. f.* [from gungun, Saxon.]  
1. Any thing modulated in the utterance.  
Noise other than the found of dance and song.

He first thinks fit no sonnetter advance  
His censure farther than the song or dance.

2. A poem to be modulated by the voice; a ballad.  
Pardon, goddess of the night,  
Those that flew thy virgin knight;  
For the which, with songs of woe,  
Round about his tomb they go!

3. A poem; lay; strain.  
The merry songs of peace to all his neighbours.

4. Poetry; poesy.  
This subject for heroic song pleas'd me.  
Names memorable long.

5. Notes of birds.  
The lark, the messenger of day,  
Saluted in her song the morning grey.

6. An old song. A trifle.  
I do not intend to be thus put off with an old song.  
A hopeful youth, newly advanced to great honour, was forced by a cobbler to resign all for an old song.

SONGISH. *adj.* [from song.] Containing songs; consisting of songs. A low word.  
The songish part must abound in the softness and variety of numbers, its intention being to please the hearing.

SONGSTER. *n. f.* [from song.] A singer. Used of human fingers, it is a word of slight contempt.  
The pretty songsters of the Spring with their various notes did seem to welcome him as he passed.

Some songsters can no more sing in any chamber but their own, than some clerks read in any book but their own. L'Estr.

Either songster holding out their throats,  
And folding up their wings, renew'd their notes.

## SOO

SO'NGSTRESS. *n. f.* [from song.] A female singer.  
Through the soft silence of the listening night,  
The sober-suited songstress trills her lay.

SO'NNET. *n. f.* [sonnet, French; sonnetto, Italian.]  
1. A short poem consisting of fourteen lines, of which the rhymes are adjusted by a particular rule. It is not very suitable to the English language, and has not been used by any man of eminence since Milton.

A book was writ of late call'd Tetrachordon,  
And woven close, both matter, form, and stile;  
The subject new: it walk'd the town a-while,  
Numbring good intellects, now seldom por'd on:

Cries the ill-reader, Bles'd us, what a word on  
A title-page is this! and fume in file  
Stand spelling false, while one might walk to Mile-  
End-green. Why is it harder, fir, than Gordon,

Colkito, or Macdonnell, or Galasp?  
Those rugged names to our like mouths grow sleek,  
That would have made Quintilian stare and gasp:

Thy age like ours, the foul of fir John Cheek,  
Hated not learning worse than toad or asp,  
When thou taught'st Cambridge and king Edward  
Greek.

2. A small poem.  
Let us into the city presently,  
To fort some gentlemen well skill'd in musick;  
I have a sonnet that will serve the turn.

SONNETTEER. *n. f.* [sonnetier, French; from sonnet.] A small poet, in contempt.  
Affix me, I me extemporal god of rhyme; for I am sure I shall turn sonneteer.

He first thinks fit no sonnetter advance  
His censure farther than the song or dance.

There are as many kinds of gardening as of poetry: your makers of parterres and flower-gardens are epigrammatists and sonnetters in this art.

What woful stuff this madrigal would be,  
In some starry'd hackney sonneteer or me?  
But let a lord once own the happy lines,  
How the wit brightens! how the style refines!

SONIFEROUS. *adj.* [sonus and fero, Latin.] Giving or bringing sound.  
This will appear, let the subject matter of sounds be what it will; either the atmosphere, or the ethereal part thereof, or soniferous particles of bodies.

SONIFICK. *adj.* [sonorus and facio, Lat.] Producing sound.  
If he should ask me why a clock strikes, and points to the hour, and I should say, it is by an indicating form and sonifick quality, this would be unsatisfactory.

SONOROUS. *adj.* [sonore, French; sonorus, Latin.]  
1. Loud sounding; giving loud or shrill found. Bodies are distinguished as sonorous or unsonorous.

All the while  
Sonorous metal blowing martial sounds;  
At which the universal host up-fent  
A shout that tore hell's concave.

2. High sounding; magnificent of found.  
The Italian opera, amidst all the meanness and familiarity of the thoughts, has something beautiful and sonorous in the expression.

SONOROUSLY. *adv.* [from sonorous.] With high found; with magnificence of found.

SONOROUSNESS. *n. f.* [from sonorous.]  
1. The quality of giving found.  
Enquiring of a maker of viols and lutes of what age he thought lutes ought to be, to attain their full and best seasoning for sonorousness, he replied, that in some twenty years would be requisite, and in others forty.

2. Magnificence of found.  
SOON. *adv.* [son, Gothick; sona, Saxon; soon, Dutch.]

1. Before long time be past; shortly after any time assigned or supposed.  
Nor did they not perceive their evil plight,  
Yet to their gen'ral's voice they soon obey'd.

2. Early; before any time supposed: opposed to late.  
O boy! thy father gave thee life too soon,  
And hath bereft thee of thy life too late.

3. Ready; willingly.  
I would as soon see a river winding through woods and meadows, as when it is toll'd up in so many whimsical figures at Versailles.

4. It has in Sidney the signification of an adjective, whether licentious or according to the custom of his time.  
He hath preferred Argalus alive, under pretence of having him publicly executed after these wars, of which they hope for a soon and prosperous issue.

5. To gratify; to please.  
This calm'd his cares; soon'd with his future fame,  
And pleas'd to hear his propagated name.

SO'OTHER. *n. f.* [from sooth.] A flatterer; one who gains by blandishments.  
I cannot flatter: I defy  
The tongues of soothers.

SOOTHSA'Y. *v. n.* [sooth and say.] To predict; to foretell.  
A damsel, possessed with a spirit of divination, met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying.

SOOTHSA'YER.

## SOO

5. Soon. *adv.* Immediately; at the very time.  
As soon as he came nigh unto the camp, he saw the calf and the dance.

Nor was his virtue poison'd, soon as born,  
With the too early thoughts of being king.

SOONLY. *adv.* [from soon.] Quickly; speedily. This word I remember in no other place; but if soon be, as it seems once to have been, an adjective, soonly is proper.

A maion meets with a stone that wants no cutting, and, soonly approving of it, places it in his work.

SO'OPBERRY. *n. f.* [sopindus, Latin.] A plant.  
It hath a flower, which for the most part is composed of four leaves, expanding in form of a rose; from whose four-leaved empalement arises the pointal, which afterward becomes a spherical fruit, inclosing a nut of the same form.

SOOT. *n. f.* [soot, Saxon; soot, Islandick; soot, Dutch.] Condensed or embodied smoke.  
Soot, though thin spread in a field, is a very good compost.

If the fire be not kept within the tunnel of the chimney, and some appointed to sweep down the soot, the house will be in danger of burning.

Of they assay'd,  
Hunger and thirst constringing; drugg'd as oft  
With hatefullest distill'd, with'd their jaws,  
With soot and cinders fill'd.

Our household gods, that droop upon our hearths,  
Each from his venerable face shall brush  
The Macedonian soot, and shine again.

SO'OTED. *adj.* [from soot.] Smeared, manured, or covered with soot.  
The land was sooted before.

SO'OTERKIN. *n. f.* A kind of false birth fabled to be produced by the Dutch women from sitting over their stoves.  
When Jove was, from his teeming head,  
Of wit's fair goddess brought to-bed,  
There follow'd at his lying-in,  
For after-birth, a sooterkin.

SOOTH. *n. f.* [sooth, Saxon.] Truth; reality. Obsolete.  
Sir, understand you this of me in sooth,  
Th' youngest daughter, whom you hearken for,  
Her father keeps from all access of suitors,  
Until the eldest sister first be wed.

That e'er this tongue of mine,  
That laid the sentence of dread banishment  
On yond proud man, should take it off again  
With words of sooth.

He looks like sooth: he says he loves my daughter;  
I think so too; for never gaz'd the moon  
Upon the water, as he'll stand and read  
My daughter's eyes.

If I have any skill in soothsaying, as in sooth I have none,  
It doth prognosticate that I shall change caps.

The very sooth of it is, that an ill habit has the force of an ill fate.

I did not mean to chide you;  
For, sooth to say, I hold it noble in you  
To cherish the distress'd.

SOOTH. *adj.* [sooth, Saxon.] Pleasing; delightful.  
Some other means I have,  
Which once of Melibæus old I learn'd,  
The soothest shepherd that e'er pip'd on plains.

TO SOOTH. *v. a.* [xerothian, Saxon.]  
1. To flatter; to please with blandishments.  
In soothing them, we nourish 'gainst our senate  
The cockle of rebellion, insolence, sedition.

Can I sooth tyranny?  
Seem pleas'd to see my royal master murder'd,  
His crown usurp'd, a distaff in the throne?

By his fair daughter is the chief confin'd,  
Who sooths to dear delight his anxious mind;  
Successful all her soft caresses prove,  
To banish from his breast his country's love.

Thinks he that Memnon, soldier as he is,  
Thoughtless and dull, will listen to his soothsaying?  
I've try'd the force of every reason on him,  
Sooth'd and carel'd, been angry, sooth'd again;  
Laid safety, life, and interest in his light;  
But all are vain, he scorns them all for Cato.

2. To calm; to soften; to mollify.  
The bel dame  
Sooths her with blandishments, and frights with threats.

3. To gratify; to please.  
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And pleas'd to hear his propagated name.

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